

Wayne Allard

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SENATOR ALLARD ANNOUNCES FUNDING AUTHORIZED FOR ROCKY FLATS, RFCLOG AND ITS POST-CLOSURE ORGANIZATION

Senate Armed Services Committee Oks FY2005 defense authorization bill

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado), a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, announced Friday that the committee has approved a FY 2005 Department of Defense Authorization Bill containing full funding to complete the cleanup of the former Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant totaling \$664 million, as well as \$250,000 for the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments (RFCLOG) and its eventual conversion to a post-closure organization.

“This is good news for all those who have fought for the cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats. The Committee remains very supportive of the completion of this project and the eventual transformation of the Rocky Flats site into a national wildlife refuge,” Senator Allard said. “This funding keeps us on schedule for the 2006 completion and closure.”

Rocky Flats is in the final stages of environmental cleanup and waste management, and is destined for eventual decommissioning. The target date for completion of this work is December, 2006. It is a complex of more than 100 buildings located in the center of about nine square miles of undeveloped land 16 miles northwest of downtown Denver.

The 2005 Defense Authorization legislation that the committee approved authorizes a 3.5 percent across-the-board pay raise for military personnel and an additional \$925 million for heavily-armored Humvees and enhanced individual body armor. It recommends overall funding of \$422.2 billion in budget authority for defense programs in FY2005, an increase of \$20.9 billion above the amount authorized by Congress for FY2004.

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